

What about tropical storm intensification (potential collapse of portions of islands)? not sure how far you want to go with this effort

Harry Simmons – agrees that sea level rise (SLR) has got to be a part of the BIMP. Maybe there are both short- term (up to 30 years) and long-term (40 – 80 years) goals (and long-term may not need to be addressed in the near term but at least identify issues for the next generation).

Butch Parrish – In the Town of Topsail Beach, our horizons are much shorter. We need a better funding and budgeting process to know how towns can execute nourishment projects in a non-cumbersome way. Need to resolve issue to better use local and state funds to execute federal permits (e.g., Topsail Beach is surrounded by federally maintained Banks Channel and the US Army Corps of Engineers, or USACE, has permits to allow disposal of dredged sand on the beach. Right now, USACE doesn't have money but Topsail Beach does and wouldn't it be easier to use that money to execute USACE permit rather than spending years applying for separate permits to do the same thing that already is permitted?). It also seems that so much work is repeated from an environmental point of view so it would be nice to have an overall statewide plan in order to gather data more cost effectively and to generate a statewide environmental assessment that would allow local beach nourishment projects to go forward in a less time-consuming manner.

Steve Underwood – The five steps identified by DWR/DCM in BIMP work plan are critical, especially the first step of identifying and acquiring all of these coastal data that could help the overall EA/EIS process because there is a level of confidence in the data that have been collected as well as having these data in one central location (and these data could then be plugged into the EA/EIS needs to expedite development).

Harry Simmons – What kind of data?

Rudi Rudolph – worried a little bit about the timeline in the BIMP scope of work (SOW). What really can be done in 18 months? Step 1 (data collection) could easily take more than 18 months. Also, sand on the beach is recycled from offshore (continental shelf) and not coming from rivers. How do we manage that sand versus other sediment in estuaries (and the relationship to fish habitat).

John Morris – What we're going to try and do in 18 months is the best job possible to have a product for the public but we don't feel this will be the end of the effort.

Mike Street – This needs to be a comprehensive data gathering process along entire coast (biological, engineering, etc.). Data need to be identified in a common database but don't necessarily need to reside there. Should the state step forward with local governments and make policy plans that assume limited to no involvement of the federal government (i.e., USACE)?